

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NAIROB 04079 271054Z

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ACTION PRS-01

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FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9245

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UNCLAS NAIROBI 4079

FOR S/PRS; DEPARTMENT PASS NSC FOR MR. SCOWCROFT AND
WHITE HOUSE FOR MR. NESSEN

E.O. 111652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY, A.)

SUBJ: MEDIA COVERAGE KISSINGER TRIP

REF STATE 081235

1. BOTH NAIROBI DAILIES CONTINUE FRONT PAGE COVERAGE OF
KISSINGER AFRICAN TRIP. DAILY NATION USED THREE-COLUMN
HEAD WITH PICTURE OF KISSINGER-NYERERE AND STORY EMPHASIZING
NYERERE'S STAND ON ARMED STRUGGLE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.
BACK PAGE CONTINUATION GIVES SEVERAL COLUMNS TO SECRETARY'S
REMARKS TO NEWSMEN AND AT DINNER SUNDAY NIGHT. THE STANDARD
CARRIES SIX-COLUMN BANNER (WITH SAME KISSINGER-NYERERE
PICTURE) AND STORY DATED LUSAKA EMPHASIZING KAUNDA'S
VIEW OF INEVITABILITY OF WAR IN SOUTHERN AFRICA; BULK OF
STORY IS QUOTES FROM NYERERE ON LIBERATION STRUGGLE.
KISSINGER PROMINENT BOTH RADIO AND TV NEWSCASTS.

2. THE STANDARD EDITORIAL TUESDAY FINDS KISSINGER TRIP A
"SALVAGE" OPERATION FOR AMERICA'S AFRICAN POLICY AND OBSERVES
THAT THE SECRETARY FACES UNANIMITY AMONG AFRICAN STATES
ABOUT THE ISSUE OF SOUTHERN AFRICA. STANDARD SAYS THE
SECRETARY'S "MAIN STRATEGY IS TO REORIENTATE HIS COUNTRY'S
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AFRICAN POLICY AND TO SALVAGE IT FROM THE RUINS INTO WHICH

IT HAD BEEN PLUNGED BY MEN LIKE FORMER PRESIDENT NIXON."

3. "HAVING ALMOST MIRACULOUSLY DRAGGED HIS COUNTRY OUT OF THE POLICY AND PHYSICAL BLUNDERS IT HAD FALLEN INTO IN ANGOLA, DR. KISSINGER IS AT AN INCONTESTABLE ADVANTAGE DURING HIS PRESENT AFRICA SAFARI. HE HAS NOT BEEN DUMBFOUNDED BY THE REMARKABLE UNANIMITY HE HAS DETECTED IN KENYA, TANZANIA AND ZAMBIA ON THAT THORNY ISSUE OF 'UHURU' AND SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE PEOPLES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA. AND WHEREVER HE GOES, THE SECRETARY OF STATE WILL BE GREETED WITH THE SAME OAU-STYLED UNANIMITY. HIS PROBLEM, THEN, IS HOW TO CONVINCE THE VARIOUS AFRICAN REGIMES THAT HIS OWN REGIME BACK HOME IN WASHINGTON HAS NOW DECIDED TO BACK THE 'UHURU HORSE' -- AND TO WHAT EXTENT."

4. BUT NEWSPAPER WARNS THAT ANY AMERICAN ASSISTANCE SHOULD NOT BE PALLIATIVES: "IT HAS ALREADY BEEN HINTED THAT ANY AMERICAN AID TO SOME OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS MIGHT BE CHANNELED THROUGH SOME OF THE INDEPENDENT AFRICA COUNTRIES DR. KISSINGER IS VISITING. SHOULD THE 'AID' BE IN THE FORM OF DRUGS FOR ALLAYING PAIN AND FEVER, BANDAGES, AND LITERATURE PROPAGATING THINGS SUCH AS 'DEMOCRACY,' SUCH GIFTS HAD BETTER BE SENT TO POST-WAR VIETNAM OR THE SINAI."

5. STANDARD ALSO CARRIED TOP OF PAGE ONE REUTERS STORY SAYING STATE DEPARTMENT GOOFED BY MIXING UP IDENTITIES OF THREE AFRICAN PRESIDENTS IN PHOTOS SENT TO 500 U.S. TELEVISION STATIONS.
MARSHALL

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